

# Housing Town Hall

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February 10, 2020

# Town Hall Conversation Guidelines

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- Step up, step back
- Be solution/action oriented
- Allow others to speak if you've already spoken
- Ask about or address general/community-focused issues
- We may not have all the answers today
- The goal is to have a conversation to work toward a solution

# Plan for Today's Town Hall

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1. Student Panel (20 minutes)
2. Context Behind Decision (10 minutes)
3. Actions Taken Since Announcement (10 minutes)
4. Q & A (20 minutes)

Thanks to Audi, Tasfia, and Thom for all their help!

# Student Panel

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# 851 by the Numbers

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- **Maximum Capacity:** 146
- **August Occupancy:** Total: 129, 124 MKS students, 5 3rd Party Tenants
- **Current Occupancy:** 68% occupancy (n=100), includes 3rd Party Tenants
  - 73 juniors, 9 seniors (including 3 RAS), 18 3rd Party Tenants
- **Attrition Rate:** 35% (n=44)

# Factors in Decision Making Process

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- Enrollment projections for next year: 225 juniors
- Feedback from December survey: 18% (n=17) of students said they would be interested in renewing their lease
  - Percentage based on December occupancy (94)
  - 2 of the 17 have moved out since completing survey
- 851 Attrition Rate
- Need to have work done in the building/ turn-around time for reopening
- Want to give students the option of going home for summer and not paying rent

# What We're Working On

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- Locating additional housing options for rising seniors, remaining juniors
  - Seniors will be given priority for additional housing options
  - Prioritizing price point (comparable to 851), proximity/safety, and amenities (kitchen, community spaces, etc.)
  - Already reviewing properties and researching options
  - Students will be a part of this process! Contact Michelle if interested in helping.

# What We're Working On

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- **Evaluating Options for Housing Deposits**
  - Transferring 851 housing deposit to new housing option
  - Releasing deposits early to ease cost for those who choose to move off campus
- **Exploring Arranging Moving Services**
  - Concerns: Liability, logistics
  - May require cost-sharing with students
- **Offering Workshops on how to find housing in the city for students who choose to move off campus**



# What We're Working On

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- Reviewing and Revising Housing Agreement (851 and other properties)
  - Require student to commit to academic year
  - Higher expectation for students to follow community standards (i.e. smoking in rooms)
- Messaging is just as important as the message itself
  - Determining standard process through which important announcements are made to the student community
    - How can students be a part of this process?
    - What does an effective timeline look like?
    - How do we incorporate student feedback?
  - *Reach out to Lauren if you need additional support*

# Outstanding Questions/Request

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- **Transportation “benefit”**
  - Offering subsidized or some type of commuting benefit for students who choose to move off campus.
- **Expanding Living ISA**
  - Offering temporary increase to offset cost of moving
- **Exemptions for students who need an accommodation**
  - Reach out to Michelle for more information

# Questions and Answers

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